

**Resolution of Town officially recognizing 2015 as the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.**

**Whereas** the West Hartford Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities was established effective September 23, 1986 in order to:

- improve public awareness and understanding of the rights and special needs of persons with disabilities;
- to affirm the commitment of the Town and the community to the proposition that every person, regardless of handicap or other disability, shall have the opportunity to realize his or her fullest potential and participate as fully as possible in the life of the community; and
- to encourage the elimination of barriers of every kind which stand in the way of persons with disabilities living and working in the community; and

**Whereas** the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990, by President George H.W. Bush, as a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination and guarantees that people with disabilities have the same opportunities as everyone else to participate in the mainstream of American life -- to enjoy employment opportunities, to purchase goods and services, and to participate in State and local government programs and services; and

**Whereas** this landmark federal legislation has brought meaningful change throughout cities and towns across the country, including West Hartford

**Now therefore be it resolved by the Town Council of West Hartford that** the Town officially recognizes 2015 as the year of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act in recognition of the Town's continuing commitment to providing equal access and opportunities for people with disabilities to places of housing, employment, education, recreation, worship, among others.